History

1920 – — – 2002

Corporate

1920	January	Toyo Cork Kogyo Co. Ltd. is founded in Hiroshima, Japan. Shinpachi Kaizuka becomes president.
1921	March	Jujiro Matsuda becomes president.
1927	September	Company becomes Toyo Kogyo Co., Ltd.
1929	April	Begins manufacturing Toyo machine tools.
1931	October	Starts 3-wheeled truck "Mazda-go" production.
1932	–	Starts export of 3-wheeled trucks to Dalian, Mukden, Tsingtao, China.
1935	October	Begins production of rock drills and gauge blocks.
1945	August	Loans part of headquarters' building to Hiroshima prefecture and all functions of the prefecture office are transferred there (until July '46).
1949	August	Restarts 3-wheeled truck exports (India).
1951	December	Tsuneji Matsuda becomes president.
1961	July	Enters into technical cooperation with NSU/ Wankel on rotary engines.
1962	January	Begins local assembly in South Korea.
1963	March	Cumulative production reaches 1 million vehicles.
	June	Begins local assembly in South Africa.
1965	January	Technical cooperation begins with Perkins Services N.V. (U.K.) on diesel engines.
	May	Completes Miyoshi Proving Ground.
1966	November	Completes new passenger car plant (Ujina) in Hiroshima.
1967	March	Full-scale exports to the European market starts.
	April	Establishes sales company in Australia.
1968	July	Establishes sales company in Canada.
1969	April	Begins full-scale exports of rotary engine vehicles.
1970	April	Exports to the U.S. begin.
	November	Kouhei Matsuda becomes president.
1971	February	Establishes Mazda Motor of America (MMA).
1972	October	Completes Mazda Training Center in Taibi.
	December	Cumulative production reaches 5 million units.
1974	May	Completes Miyoshi diesel engine plant.
1975	January	Begins local production in Thailand.
1977	December	Yoshiki Yamasaki becomes president.
1978	November	Cumulative production reaches 1 million units for rotary-engine cars.
1979	June	Cumulative production reaches 10 million units.
	November	Enters into a capital tie-up with Ford Motor Company.
1981	December	Starts operations at Hofu transmission plant (Nakanoseki area).
		Establishes Autorama (begins to supply products from October 1982).
1982	September	Production begins at the Hofu Plant (Nishinoura district).
1983	April	Begins local production in Colombia (establishes CCA).
1984	May	Company is renamed Mazda Motor Corporation.
	October	Establishes the Mazda Foundation.
	November	Kenichi Yamamoto becomes president.
1985	January	Establishes Mazda Motor Manufacturing (USA) Corporation (MMUC), later called AutoAlliance International (AAI).
	March	Establishes Mazda Motor Corporation Beijing Representative Office.
1986	April	Cumulative production of Mazda rotary-engine vehicles reaches 1.5 million units.
	December	Mazda R&D Center in Ann Arbor is completed.
1987	April	Cumulative production reaches 20 million units in Japan.
	June	Mazda opens a new research center in Yokohama, Japan.
	December	Norimasa Furuta becomes president.
		Reaches an OEM agreement for micro-mini vehicles with Suzuki Motors Co., Ltd.
1988	May	Completes the Mazda Research and Development Center in Irvine, CA. (U.S.).
1989	April	Establishes Mazda Eunos and Mazda Autozam dealership channels.
	June	Tokyo Branch renamed Tokyo Head Office.
1990	May	Completes the European R&D Representative Office (MRE) in Germany.
	December	Cumulative production reaches 25 million units.
1991	June	Mazda 787B No.55 wins the Le Mans 24-Hour endurance race, claiming the first victory for a Japanese automobile and the rotary engine.
	November	Establishes Anfini sales channel (formerly Mazda Auto) in Japan.
	December	Yoshihiro Wada becomes president.
1992	February	Full-scale production starts in Hofu Plant No.2.
	April	The 'Mazda Global Environmental Charter' is adopted.
	September	Starts local production in China.
1993	March	Formulates "Environment-Related Activity Promotion Plan (Mazda Environmental Voluntary Plan)".
	May	Cumulative production at AAI in the US reaches 1 million units.
1994	November	Mazda acquires the ISO 9002 certificate, first among Japanese auto makers.
1995	April	Cumulative production in Japan reaches 30 million units.
	November	Establishes AutoAlliance (Thailand) Co., Ltd. (AAT). (Actual operations start in February 1996)
1996	April	Anfini dealerships renamed Mazda Anfini.
		Eunos dealerships integrated into Mazda Anfini or Mazda dealerships.
	June	Mazda acquires ISO 9001 certification, the highest attainable quality mark in the ISO 9000 series, first among Japanese automakers.
		Henry D.G. Wallace becomes president.
1997	June	Inaugurates its new brand symbol, the Mazda M.
	October	North American operations are streamlined (MNAO commences operations).
	November	James E. Miller is appointed president.
	December	Establishes Ethics Committee.
1998	January	Changes corporate symbol.
	March	Consolidates European business (MME commences operations).
	April	Formulates Product Philosophy.
	May	AAT starts production.
	August	Establishes Mazda Motor Logistics Europe N.V. (MLE).
	September	Hofu Nishinoura plant acquires ISO 14001 certification.
	December	AAT commences exports.
1999	June	Cumulative production at AAI reaches 2 million units.
		Mazda reaches an agreement with Mitsubishi to supply small commercial vehicles to Mitsubishi.
	September	Entire Hofu Plant obtains environmental ISO certification.
	December	Mark Fields becomes president.
2000	April	Mazda participates in a government supported joint project to test run fuel cell vehicles.
	June	All Mazda plants in Japan acquire ISO 14001 environmental management certification.
	July	Introduces a website for the media.
		Establishes brand DNA common to all passenger cars.
	August	AAT-produced pickup trucks reach 100,000 units.
	November	Announces mid-term plan, "Millennium Plan".
2001	January	Mazda expands use of recycled materials made from end-of-life bumpers.
	February	Introduces the 'build-to-order' system, a first in Japan.
	September	Closes Ujina Plant No.2 (until May 2004).
2002	January	Cumulative production volume at Hofu Plant reaches 5 million units.
		Completes Nakasatsunai Proving Ground in Hokkaido.
		Commences production of MZR engines.
	March	Opens company day-care center.
	April	Introduces new brand message 'Zoom-Zoom.'
	May	Enhances corporate governance by taking measures such as the introduction of an executive officer system.
	June	Lewis Booth becomes president.
	August	Sells auto leasing business to SB Auto Leasing Company.
	September	Transfers business in subsidiary Mazda Earth Technologies Co., Ltd. to Sandvik Tamrock Japan Co., Ltd.
	December	Mazda establishes Management Advisory Committee to further enhance corporate governance.

Product

1931	October	Starts sales of Mazda's first automobile, the 3-wheeled truck, Mazda-go.
1950	June	Introduces first small 4-wheeled truck, Mazda CA.
1958	April	Introduces small 4-wheeled truck "Romper" (later known as D-series (Mazda Kraft), E-series (Titan)).
1960	May	Introduces Mazda R360 Coupe, first 2-door passenger car for the company.
1961	February	Introduces 4-wheeled light truck B360 (later known as Porter).
	August	Introduces Mazda B-series 1500 compact pickup (later renamed Proceed).
1962	February	Introduces Mazda Carol 600, first 4-door passenger car for the company.
1963	October	Introduces Familia 800 Van.
1964	October	Introduces Familia Sedan.
1965	May	Introduces Light bus (later known as Parkway).
1966	May	Introduces Mazda Bongo.
	August	Introduces Mazda Luce.
1967	May	Introduces Mazda Cosmo Sport (110S), first rotary engine vehicle for the company.
1969	April	Introduces 4-wheeled light truck, Porter Cab.
	October	Introduces mid-size truck, Boxer.
1970	May	Introduces Mazda Capella (RX-2).
1971	September	Introduces the Grand Familia.
		Introduces Mazda Savanna (RX-3).
1972	June	Introduces micro-mini, Shante.
1975	March	Introduces Road Pacer.
	October	Introduces Mazda Cosmo.
1978	March	Introduces Mazda Savanna RX-7 (RX-7).
1980	December	5th generation Mazda Familia (GLC/323) wins "Japan Car of the Year."
1982	December	4th Generation Capella (Telstar) wins Japan Car of the Year award.
1983	June	Introduces Mazda Bongo Brawny van and wagon series (E-series).
1986	February	Introduces Festiva.
1987	January	Introduces Mazda Etude.
1988	October	Introduces Persona.
1989	June	Introduces Mazda Scrum (Suzuki OEM).
	September	Introduces Eunos Roadster (MX-5).
	November	Introduces Eunos 100 and Eunos 300.
1990	January	Introduces Mazda MPV.
	April	Introduces Eunos Cosmo.
	September	Introduces Autozam Revue (121).
1991	May	Introduces Mazda Sentia (929).
	June	Introduces Eunos Presso and Autozam AZ-3.
	October	HR-X hydrogen rotary engine concept car is shown at the Tokyo Motor Show.
		Introduces Mazda Cronos.
	November	Introduces Anfini MS-6 and Anfini MS-9.
1992	January	Introduces MX-6.
	February	Introduces Eunos 500 (Xedos 6).
	March	Introduces Anfini MS-8.
	May	Introduces Autozam Clef.
	October	Introduces Autozam AZ-1.
	November	Develops a passenger car with a natural gas engine.
1993	January	Electric-powered vehicles based on the Mazda MX-5 are developed.
	April	Develops Miller-cycle engine.
	September	Introduces Mazda Lantis (323F).
	October	Introduces Eunos 800 (Xedos9).
1994	February	Mazda develops a compressed natural gas-powered truck (Titan base).
	September	Introduces Mazda AZ-Wagon (Suzuki OEM).
		Introduces Mazda Familia Van (Nissan OEM).
1995	February	Introduces Mazda Proceed Levante.
	June	Introduces Mazda Bongo Friendee.
1996	August	Introduces Mazda Demio.
	October	Mazda Demio receives "RJC New Car of the Year" award.
1997	December	Mazda develops the Mazda Demio FCEV, fuel-cell electric vehicle.
1998	May	Introduces Mazda Bongo EV, electric vehicle.
	October	Introduces "AZ-Offroad" (Suzuki OEM).
		Introduces "Carol" (Suzuki OEM) (4th generation).
1999	March	Introduces Mazda Laputa (Suzuki OEM).
	April	Develops aldehyde remover, "Life Breath".
		Introduces Mazda Premacy.
2000	July	Mazda Roadster is recognized as the world's top selling lightweight open-top two-seater sports car model by the Guinness World Records (565,779 production units).
	October	Introduces Titan Dash.
	November	Introduces Tribute.
2001	February	Develops a new fuel-cell electric vehicle, Premacy FC-EV. First test run on public roads in Japan.
	December	Develops high-strength plastic technology for new module carriers.
2002	February	Introduces Mazda Spiano (Suzuki OEM).
	May	Introduces Mazda Atenza (Mazda6).
	July	Minimizes environmental impact with semi-dry machining process.
		Develops world's first environmentally friendly painting technology.
	November	Mazda Atenza wins "RJC New Car of the Year" award.
	December	Begins public road trials of Advanced Safety Vehicle (ASV).

History

2003 – 2012

Corporate

2003	January	Begins production of RENESIS rotary engine.
		Starts production of Mazda6 at FAW Car Company in China.
		Starts production of the Mazda2 in Europe at the Ford Valencia plant (ends June 2007).
	July	Mazda and Isuzu agree on OEM supply of Isuzu small truck.
	August	Hisakazu Imaki becomes president.
2004	February	Starts sales of micro-mini vehicles in all dealership networks and expands cross-channel offerings of registered vehicles.
	April	Ends production at the Hiroshima plant's F Plant to strengthen its production system.
	May	Commences operations at retooled Ujina Plant No.2.
	September	Transfers all shares in Mazda Car Rental Corporation.
	December	Ujina Plant No.1 fire.
2005	February	Hydrogen fueling station opens.
		Celebrating Mazda's 85th anniversary, the newly-renovated Mazda Museum opens.
	April	Commences an advanced automobile technology research project with the Hiroshima University Graduate School Engineering Research Dept.
		Operation of Ujina Plant No.1 paint line recommences.
	May	Mazda Global Environmental Charter revised and Mazda Environmental Committee strengthened.
	June	Mazda Motor (Shanghai) Business Management & Consulting Co., Ltd. founded.
	August	Establishes sales company, Mazda South East Asia, Ltd., in Thailand.
		Opens China Engineering Support Center.
2006	January	Mazda and Mitsubishi Corporation establish new energy supply company for Japan operations.
	February	Starts production of Mazda3 at Changan Ford Mazda Automobile plant in Chongqing.
	April	Mazda Autozam sales channel in Japan cumulative sales reach 1 million units.
	May	Holds opening ceremony for Mine Proving Ground.
	July	The car-carrying vessel, Cougar Ace, becomes stricken at sea.
	September	Mazda6 marks 3 millionth vehicle produced at AutoAlliance International.
	October	Renews Mazda official websites.
2007	March	Announces new "Mazda Advancement Plan" mid-term business plan.
		Sets long-term vision for technology development: "Sustainable Zoom-Zoom."
	April	Starts engine mass production at the Changan Ford Mazda Automobile Co., Ltd. (Nanjing).
	May	Receives certification of the Japanese Government's Kurumin mark.
		Celebrates the 40th anniversary of the Rotary Engine vehicle.
	July	Marks 40 million units of cumulative vehicle production in Japan.
		AAT celebrates 1 million units of production.
		Achieves mixed production of V6 and in-line four-cylinder engines.
		Mazda Enhances Green Distribution System Between Hiroshima and the Tokai District.
	October	Changan Ford Mazda Automobile Nanjing Plant commences production of the new Mazda2.
2008	February	Receives Japan's first Human Rights Merit Award.
	March	Forms strategic alliance in auto financing business in Japan.
	April	Launches the environment management system 'Eco-action 21' among Japanese distributors.
	June	Launches new Global Visual Identity to express the company's brand identity.
		Announces plan to improve vehicle fuel economy 30% by 2015.
	July	Establishes Mazda Parts Co., Ltd. in Japan.
	September	Commences vehicle transport on the Trans-Siberian Railroad.
	October	Mazda Museum welcomes 1 millionth visitor.
	November	Takashi Yamanouchi becomes president.
	December	Obtains naming rights for the new Hiroshima baseball stadium and names the stadium "Mazda Zoom-Zoom Stadium Hiroshima."
2009	March	Opens training centers in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen.
	April	Increases capital investment from 25% to 40% in FAW Mazda Motor Sales Co. Ltd (FMSC).
	July	Inaugurates new passenger car plant at AutoAlliance Thailand (AAT).
2010	March	Agrees to hybrid system technology license with Toyota Motor Corporation.
	April	A joint program by Mazda Foundation and Hiroshima University, "Science Waku-Waku project" wins the 2010 Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology award.
	September	Joins Hiroshima Moritsukuri Forum. Begins forest conservation activities in the loacl communigy through Mazda no Mori (Mazda Forest).
2011	January	Nissan and Mazda agree on new OEM contract with Nissan.
	February	Mazda and Hiroshima University sign comprehensive cooperation agreement.
	June	Establishes vehicle production facility in Mexico and sales company in Brazil with Sumitomo.
		Implements outside director system.
	October	Mazda and Sumitomo Corporation hold groundbreaking ceremony to mark start of construction of the new plant in Mexico.
		Local assembly of Mazda2 begins at Vina Mazda's new plant in Vietnam.
2012	January	Completes new wing of the Mazda Hospital (in-patient ward).
	May	Begins discussions with Fiat regarding development and production of new open-top two-seater sports car.
	July	Increases production capacity of SKYACTIV-G and SKYACTIV-D engines to 800,000 units per annum.
	September	Mazda and Sollers establish Mazda Sollers, a joint venture production company in Russia.
		Mazda and Malaysia's Bermaz establish joint venture company Mazda Malaysia.
	November	Reached agreement with Toyota to produce Toyota vehicles at new plant in Mexico.

Product

2003	February	Mazda introduces a world first aluminum joining technology using friction heat.
	April	Mazda develops an impact-absorbing hood.
	May	Develops an emissions reduction technology for diesel engines where the particulate matter is reduced by over 75% compared to the current model.
	June	Mazda's RENESIS engine wins "International Engine of the Year" award.
	September	Mazda develops a new paint stripping technology for recycling bumpers which removes 99.9% of paint to produce high quality material for new bumpers.
	October	Introduces Mazda Axela (Mazda3).
	November	RENESIS rotary engine named "RJC Technology of the Year".
		Mazda RX-8 wins "RJC Car of the Year" award.
	December	Mazda6 named Car of the Year in China.
2004	May	Mazda's RENESIS wins 2.5-3.0 liter category of International Engine of the Year for second year running.
	June	Introduces Mazda Verisa
	October	Starts public road testing of the RX-8 Hydrogen RE vehicle.
	November	Mazda's Three Layer Wet Paint technologies wins the Minister of Environment Award for prevention of global warming.
2005	March	Bumper-to-bumper recycling technology is introduced to produce new bumpers for the RX-8.
	April	Mazda resumes Ujina Plant No.1 paint shop operations with the new state-of-the-art Three Layer Wet Paint system installed.
	June	Develops world's first steel-to-aluminum friction spot welding technology.
	July	Mazda adopts a more eco-friendly painting process, further reducing the environmental burden during the painting process.
	November	3rd generation Mazda Roadster wins "Japan Car of the Year".
2006	February	Begins commercial leasing of world's first rotary hydrogen vehicle (RX-8 Hydrogen RE).
	May	Mazda develops high-strength heat-resistant bioplastic for interior parts with Hiroshima area partners.
	November	Mazda MPV 2.3L DISI turbo engine vehicle wins the Chairperson's Award of the Eco-Products Awards Steering Committee.
	December	Introduces Mazda CX-7 to the Japanese market.
2007	June	Participates in ITS public road trials in Hiroshima.
	September	Develops world's first biofabric made with 100% plant-derived fiber for vehicle interior.
	October	Develops world-first catalyst material structure for autos using single-nanotechnology.
	November	3rd generation Mazda Demio wins "RJC Car of the Year" award.
		Participates in Norwegian National Project, HyNor, by providing hydrogen cars to Norway from summer 2008.
2008	January	Mazda CX-9 wins North American Truck of the Year award.
		Conducts ITS test on public roads as part of a Hiroshima prefecture industry-academic-government group.
		Realizes Japan first rear vehicle monitoring system.
	March	3rd generation Mazda2 wins World Car of the Year award.
		Starts public test driving of the Advanced Safety Vehicle, "ASV".
	June	Starts industry-academia-government collaboration to realize non-food-based bioplastics by 2013.
		Gains government approval to begin public road tests in Japan for the Mazda Premacy Hydrogen RE Hybrid.
	July	Introduces new Mazda Biante
	September	Develops a unique idling stop system using direct injection engine technology.
		Develops clean diesel engine with improved output and environmental performance.
		Develops plastic molding technology which reduces consumption of plastic resins by 30%.
2009	January	Cuts precious metal usage 70% with new single-nanocatalyst.
	February	Participates in 'ITS-Safety 2010' combined road trials.
	March	Develops world-first automated recycling technology for end-of-life vehicle bumpers.
		Becomes first Japanese automaker to develop a urea SCR system for cars.
		Begins commercial leasing of world's first hybrid rotary hydrogen vehicle, Premacy Hydrogen RE Hybrid.
	June	Succeeds in developing world's lowest environmental impact water-based paint system, "Aqua-tech", and launches it in Ujina Plant No.1.
	November	Mazda i-stop wins RJC Technology of the Year award.
		Mazda Axela and Mazda Biante with i-stop win Eco-Products Award in Japan.
		Provides Demios as the base architecture for the electric vehicle test project, "Tsukuba Environmental Style Test Project".
2010	September	Announces new design theme "KODO - Soul of Motion".
		Mazda6/Atenza global production reaches 2 million units.
	October	Announces next-generation SKYACTIV TECHNOLOGY.
2011	February	Builds 900,000th Roadster/MX-5, applies to Guinness World Records to update record for best-selling two-seat sports car.
	May	Mazda3/Axela global production reaches 3 million units.
	June	Launches Demio with highly-efficient direct-injection SKYACTIV-G 1.3 gasoline engine.
	September	Launches second SKYACTIV model in Japan, Axela (Mazda3).
	November	Launches final special edition of the RX-8; Mazda RX-8 SPIRIT R.
		New engine SKYACTIV-G 1.3 wins RJC Technology of the Year Award.
		Develops brake energy regeneration system for a passenger car that uses a capacitor.
2012	February	Launches Mazda CX-5, a new crossover SUV which adopts the full range of SKYACTIV technologies and advanced safety technology, Smart City Brake Support.
	June	Launches Mazda Flairwagon micro-mini, an OEM vehicle from Suzuki.
	October	Begins leasing the Demio EV (electric vehicle).
	November	The Mazda CX-5 with SKYACTIV-D 2.2 wins Car Technology of the Year award from Japan Automotive Hall of Fame.
		Launch of 3rd generation Atenza (Mazda6) featuring advanced safety technology, i-ACTIVSENSE.
		Mazda CX-5 wins "Japan Car of the Year".